

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: November 2, 2001

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Condon Wind Project EIS (DOE/EIS-0321/SA-01)

TO: Joe Rogers, TBL Project Manager
George Darr, PBL Project Manager

New Information: Effects to existing transmission facilities related to interconnection and integration of the Condon Wind Project (Project).

Location: North of the city of Condon in Gilliam County, Oregon

Description of the New Information: In August 2001, BPA completed preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Condon Wind Project (DOE/EIS-0321). The Final EIS was made available on August 29, 2001, and BPA published a notice of availability for the Final EIS in the Federal Register on September 7, 2001.

After completion of the Final EIS, new information and changed circumstances concerning the Proposed Action arose. After BPA completed the EIS, it confirmed that integration of other new resources, in addition to the Condon Project, may necessitate additional work in BPA's DeMoss Substation. The possible upgrade to this substation would entail replacing the 115/69-kV 25-megavolt amp transformer with a larger capacity 115/69-kV transformer, adding a 115-kV power circuit breaker, and expanding the fenced area of the substation about 50 feet by 100 feet.

In addition, BPA would enter into a generation interconnection agreement with SeaWest to allow interconnection of the Project with BPA's 69-kV DeMoss-Fossil transmission line at a point just outside SeaWest's Condon Wind Substation, within the right-of-way for the DeMoss-Fossil line. To facilitate this interconnection, BPA would tap the DeMoss-Fossil 69-kV transmission line and install two 115-kV switches at the tap point, and would install metering, supervisory control and data acquisition equipment, communications, and relaying work at SeaWest's Condon Wind Substation located in the Project area. BPA also would install relay equipment in BPA's existing DeMoss, Fossil, and Maupin Substations. All interconnection and integration construction activities would be done within existing substation properties and transmission line right-of-way.

The interconnection of the Project with the Federal Columbia River Transmission System will be pursuant to BPA's generation interconnection procedures. Transmission service to deliver power from the Project will be provided consistent with the procedures and terms of BPA's Open Access Transmission Tariff and associated transmission, ancillary, and control area services rates.

Analysis: All construction activities would be done within existing substation properties and transmission line right-of-way. The upgrades and other activities would not disturb any previously undisturbed areas and would not have any impacts beyond those already examined in the EIS. Thus, this new information and changed circumstances do not represent a substantial change to the proposal or significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Findings: This Supplement Analysis finds that: (1) there have been no substantial changes made to the proposed action relevant to environmental concerns; and (2) there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Sarah T. Branum 11-02-2001

Sarah T. Branum
Environmental Specialist

CONCUR:

/s/ Thomas C. McKinney

Thomas C. McKinney
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 11-02-2001